2 Rs. 150.00 lakhs to Government of Gujarat for General Hospital, Nadiad, District Kheda.

3. Rs. 150.00 lakhs to Government of Kerala for General Hospital, Ernakulam.

4. Rs. 150.00 lakhs to Government of Jammu and Kashmir for development of emergency/trauma services on Srinagar-Leh National Highway at Margund Kangan.

5. Rs. 150.00 lakhs to Government of Bihar for Model Bikram Referral Centre, Patna.

**Journalists working in Insurgency Prone areas**

*500. SHRI W. ANGOU SINGH : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the measures taken and being taken for the welfare of Journalists working in the insurgency prone States;

(b) whether Government are aware that the PIB and other Central agencies which are working for information and broadcasting are non-existent in their work; and

(c) if so, the measures taken to revive/strengthen them?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) The information is given in the Statement annexed. *(See* below)

(b) and (c) The activities of the offices of the Media Units of this Ministry are carried out in all parts of the country and their performance reviewed periodically, and suitable measures taken to strengthen them. Wherever necessary, additional security and staff is provided.

**Statement**

*Measures taken for welfare of Journalists*

(a) Ministry of Home Affairs has issued instructions to all the State Governments for ensuring safety and security of the Journalists on outdoor duties in pursuance of the recommendations of the Empowered Committee set up by the Ministry of Labour.

(b) Ministry of Labour has issued directions to all the State Governments for inclusion of the occupation of the newspaper employees on outdoor duties in Schedule II of the Workmen's Compensation Act, 1923 to make them eligible for compensation under the Act.

(c) The Manisana Wage Board set up by Ministry of Labour under provisions of Working Journalists and other Newspaper Employees (Conditions of Service) and Miscellaneous Provisions Act, 1955 has recommended monthly payment of Hardship Allowance to an employee working in a disturbed area.

(d) A decision has been taken to set up a Journalists Welfare Fund under this Ministry.

## WRITTEN ANSWERS TO UNSTARRED QUESTIONS

### NRI/OCB Investment in Air India and Indian Airlines

3665. SHRI SHATRUGHAN SINHA:
SHRI V.V.RAGHAVAN:
SHRI J. CHITHARANJAN:

Will the Minister of DISINVESTMENT be pleased to state:

(a)whether it is a fact that the NRI/OCB investment is being treated as foreign investment in the case of Air India while it is being treated on par with resident Indian investment in Indian Airlines and in other industries; and

(b)if so, the details and the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DISINVESTMENT (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE): (a) and (b) The investment by NRIs/OCBs in the case of Indian Airlines has been set out in keeping with the Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) policy for domestic airlines sector, which is as under:

"(i) FDI upto 40% permitted subject to no direct or indirect equity participation by foreign airlines is allowed.

(ii) 100% investment by NRIs/OCBs.

(iii) The automatic route is not available."

There is no corresponding FDI policy with respect to foreign investment in non-domestic airline'such as Air India. The decision of the Government to regard NRI/OCB holdings as 'foreign holding' for the Air India disinvestment is a policy decision, which has been taken after due consideration of relevant factors, including an analysis of earlier precedents in the insurance and telecom sector(s).